

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A master batch comprising a polyester resin as a binder resin and ~~a~~-carbon black as a colorant, said carbon black having a primary particle size of 10 nm to 100 nm, and being present in said master batch in an amount of being blended with 30 to 60 parts by weight of the master batch, said mater batch carbon black, ~~and~~ having a lightness  $L^*$  of 20 or less, wherein

the reflectance A of the master batch at 400 nm and the reflectance B of the master batch at 700 nm fall within the range satisfying the relation given by the following formula [1]:

$$0.5 < B/A < 5 \text{ [1]; and}$$

said polyester resin comprises at least one nonaromatic group.

2. (Original) The master batch according to claim 1, wherein said reflectance A at 400 nm and said reflectance B at 700 nm are both 10 or less.

3. (Previously Presented) The master batch according to claim 1, wherein said reflectance A at 400 nm and said reflectance B at 700 nm fall within a range satisfying the relation given by the following formula [2]:

$$|B-A|/A \leq 0.5 \text{ [2]}$$

4. (Original) The master batch according to claim 1, wherein the DBP oil absorption of said carbon black is 50 ml/100 g to 150 ml/100 g.

5. (Previously Presented) A toner for use in electrophotography which is used in an image forming method which has a mechanism for removing the toner remaining untransferred on an organic photosemiconductor by abutting a rubber like elastic blade to said organic photosemiconductor after a toner image obtained by developing an electrostatic latent image on said photosemiconductor has been transferred, wherein the toner comprises the master batch described in claim 1 and said binder resin.

6. (Previously Presented) A toner for use in electrophotography which is used in an image forming method which has a mechanism for removing the toner remaining untransferred on an organic photosemiconductor by abutting a rubber like elastic blade to said organic photosemiconductor after a toner image obtained by developing an electrostatic latent image on said photosemiconductor has been transferred, wherein the toner comprises the master batch described in claim 1 and said binder resin, and the volume average particle size of the toner is 7  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

7. (New) The master batch of claim 1 wherein said polyester resin is synthesized from at least one polyalcohol selected from the group consisting of 1,2-ethanediol, 1,2-propanediol, 1,3-propanediol, 1,4-butanediol, 2,3-butanediol, diethyleneglycol, triethyleneglycol, 1,5-pentanediol, 1,6-hexanediol, neopentylglycol, 1,4-

cyclohexanedimethanol, dipropyleneglycol, polyethyleneglycol, polypropyleneglycol, glycerin, sorbitol, 1,2,3,6-hexanetetraol, 1,4-sorbitan, pentaerythritol, 1,2,4-butanetriol, 1,2,5-pentanetriol, 2-methylpropanetriol, 2-methyl-1,2,4-butanetriol, trimethylolethane, and trimethylolpropane.

8. (New) The master batch of claim 1 wherein said polyester resin is synthesized from at least one polycarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of maleic acid, fumaric acid, mesaconic acid, citraconic acid, itaconic acid, glutaconic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, adipic acid, sebacic acid, glutaric acid, an alkylsuccinic acid, an acid anhydride of any one of maleic acid, fumaric acid, mesaconic acid, citraconic acid, itaconic acid, glutaconic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, adipic acid, sebacic acid, glutaric acid, and an alkylsuccinic acid, and an alkyl ester of any one of maleic acid, fumaric acid, mesaconic acid, citraconic acid, itaconic acid, glutaconic acid, cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, adipic acid, sebacic acid, glutaric acid, and an alkylsuccinic acid.